

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A delivery apparatus for a self-expanding stent comprising:

a substantially tubular shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, a guidewire lumen extending between the proximal and distal ends, and a stent bed proximate the distal end upon which a self-expanding stent is positioned; and

a substantially tubular sheath defining an interior volume, the sheath having a proximal end, a distal end, and an enlarged section proximate the distal end, the sheath being coaxially positioned over the shaft such that the enlarged section is aligned with the stent bed, the sheath being formed from an inner polymeric layer, an outer polymeric layer, and a flat wire reinforcement layer.

8. (Amended) A delivery apparatus for a self-expanding stent comprising: